



Fire Department
Bureau of Administration

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OPEN BURNING REGULATIONS FOR THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE

The Milwaukee Fire Department uses the International Fire Code for the definition and use of open burning in the city. Under the code section 307 "Open Burning" And the City of Milwaukee code 214-9 "Responsibility to Eliminate Fire Hazards."

307.2.2 Prohibited open burning. Open burning that will be offensive or objectionable due to smoke or odor emissions when atmospheric conditions or local circumstances make such fires hazardous shall be prohibited.

307.3 Location. The location for open burning shall not be less than 50 feet from any structure, and provisions shall be made to prevent the fire from spreading to within 50 feet of any structure.

EXCEPTIONS:

- 1) Fire in approved containers that are not less than 15 feet from a structure.
- 2) The minimum required distance from a structure shall be 25 feet where the pile size is 3 feet or less in diameter and 2 feet or less in height.

307.3.1 Bonfires. A bonfire shall not be conducted within 25 feet of a structure or combustible material unless the bonfire is contained in a large barbecue pit. Conditions which could cause a fire to spread to within 25 feet of a structure shall be eliminated prior to ignition.

214-9.1 RUBBISH BURNERS. Accumulation of combustible waste materials or any other rubbish may be burned, under constant supervision, not nearer than 20 feet to any building or structure in a substantial burner built of metal, concrete or brick, well covered or screened to prevent the escape of sparks and burning embers as approved by the commissioner.

214-9.2.a OPEN FIRES. No person shall kindle or start a fire in the open air within the city except for fires in an approved burner as regulated in sub. 1.